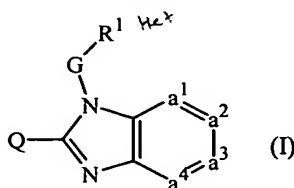


This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (*currently amended*) A method of manufacturing a medicament for the treatment of viral infections, comprising the step of providing a compound of formula

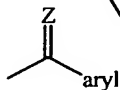


a prodrug, *N*-oxide, addition salt, quaternary amine, metal complex or stereochemically isomeric form thereof,

wherein $-a^1=a^2-a^3=a^4-$ represents a bivalent radical of formula

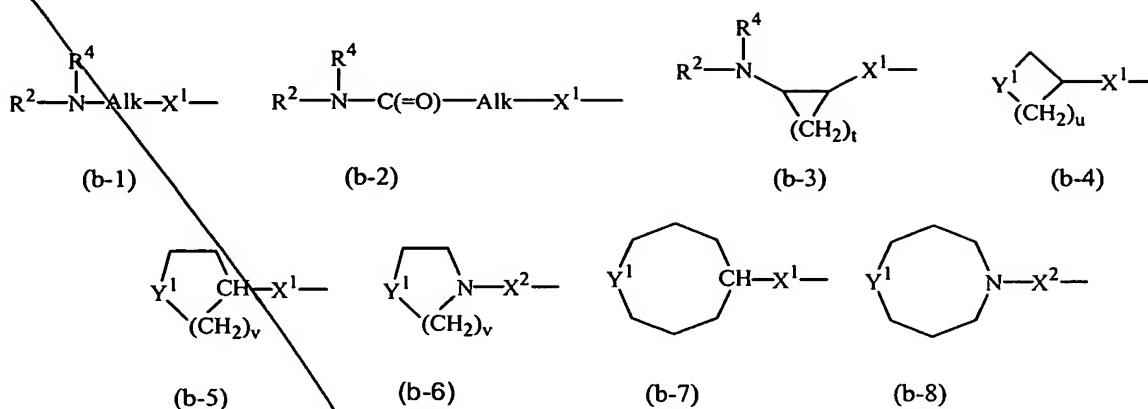
- $-\text{CH}=\text{CH}-\text{CH}=\text{CH}-$ (a-1);
 $-\text{N}=\text{CH}-\text{CH}=\text{CH}-$ (a-2);
 $-\text{CH}=\text{N}-\text{CH}=\text{CH}-$ (a-3);
 $-\text{CH}=\text{CH}-\text{N}=\text{CH}-$ (a-4); or
 $-\text{CH}=\text{CH}-\text{CH}=\text{N}-$ (a-5);

wherein each hydrogen atom in the radicals (a-1), (a-2), (a-3), (a-4) and (a-5) may optionally be replaced by halo, C_{1-6} alkyl, nitro, amino, hydroxy, C_{1-6} alkyloxy, polyhalo C_{1-6} alkyl, carboxyl, amino C_{1-6} alkyl, mono- or di(C_{1-4} alkyl)amino C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} alkyloxycarbonyl, hydroxy C_{1-6} alkyl, or a radical of formula



wherein $=\text{Z}$ is $=\text{O}$, $=\text{CH}-\text{C}(=\text{O})-\text{NR}^{5a}\text{R}^{5b}$, $=\text{CH}_2$, $=\text{CH}-\text{C}_{1-6}$ alkyl, $=\text{N}-\text{OH}$ or $=\text{N}-\text{O}-\text{C}_{1-6}$ alkyl;

Q is a radical of formula



wherein Alk is C₁₋₆alkanediyl;

Y¹ is a bivalent radical of formula -NR²- or -CH(NR²R⁴)-;

X¹ is NR⁴, S, S(=O), S(=O)₂, O, CH₂, C(=O), C(=CH₂), CH(OH), CH(CH₃), CH(OCH₃), CH(SCH₃), CH(NR^{5a}R^{5b}), CH₂-NR⁴ or NR⁴-CH₂;

X² is a direct bond, CH₂, C(=O), NR⁴, C₁₋₄alkyl-NR⁴, NR⁴-C₁₋₄alkyl;

t is 2, 3, 4 or 5;

u is 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5;

v is 2 or 3; and

whereby each hydrogen atom in Alk and the carbocycles and the heterocycles defined in radicals (b-3), (b-4), (b-5), (b-6), (b-7) and (b-8) may optionally be replaced by R³; with the proviso that when R³ is hydroxy or C₁₋₆alkyloxy, then R³ can not replace a hydrogen atom in the α position relative to a nitrogen atom;

G is a direct bond or C₁₋₁₀alkanediyl;

R¹ is a monocyclic heterocycle selected from piperidiny, piperaziny, pyridyl, pyraziny, pyridaziny, pyrimidiny, pyrroly, furanyl, tetrahydrofuranyl, thienyl, oxazolyl, thiazolyl, imidazolyl, pyrazolyl, isoxazolyl, oxadiazolyl, and isothiazolyl; and each heterocycle may optionally be substituted with 1 or where possible more, such as 2, 3 or 4, substituents selected from halo, hydroxy, amino, cyano, carboxy, C₁₋₆alkyl, C₁₋₆alkyloxy, C₁₋₆alkylthio, C₁₋₆alkyloxyC₁₋₆alkyl, aryl, arylC₁₋₆alkyl, arylC₁₋₆alkyloxy, hydroxyC₁₋₆alkyl, mono-or di(C₁₋₆alkyl)amino, mono-or di(C₁₋₆alkyl)aminoC₁₋₆alkyl, polyhaloC₁₋₆alkyl, C₁₋₆alkylcarbonylamino, C₁₋₆alkyl-SO₂-NR^{5c}-, aryl-SO₂-NR^{5c}-, C₁₋₆alkyloxycarbonyl, -C(=O)-NR^{5c}R^{5d}, HO(-CH₂-CH₂-

$O)_n$ -, halo($-CH_2-CH_2-O)_n$ -, C_{1-6} alkyloxy($-CH_2-CH_2-O)_n$ -, aryl C_{1-6} alkyloxy($-CH_2-CH_2-O)_n$ - and mono-or di(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino($-CH_2-CH_2-O)_n$ -;

each n independently is 1, 2, 3 or 4;

R^2 is hydrogen, formyl, C_{1-6} alkylcarbonyl, Hetcarbonyl, pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, homopiperidinyl, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl substituted with $N(R^6)_2$, or C_{1-10} alkyl substituted with $N(R^6)_2$ and optionally with a second, third or fourth substituent selected from amino, hydroxy, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, C_{2-5} alkanediyl, piperidinyl, mono-or di(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino, C_{1-6} alkyloxycarbonylamino, aryl and aryloxy;

R^3 is hydrogen, hydroxy, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} alkyloxy, aryl C_{1-6} alkyl or aryl C_{1-6} alkyloxy;

R^4 is hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl or aryl C_{1-6} alkyl;

R^{5a} , R^{5b} , R^{5c} and R^{5d} each independently are hydrogen or C_{1-6} alkyl; or

R^{5a} and R^{5b} , or R^{5c} and R^{5d} taken together form a bivalent radical of formula $-(CH_2)_s-$ wherein s is 4 or 5;

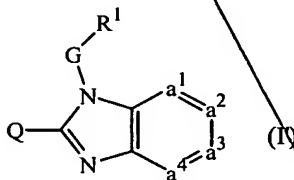
R^6 is hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, formyl, hydroxy C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} alkylcarbonyl or C_{1-6} alkyloxycarbonyl;

aryl is phenyl or phenyl substituted with 1 or more, such as 2, 3 or 4, substituents selected from halo, hydroxy, C_{1-6} alkyl, hydroxy C_{1-6} alkyl, polyhalo C_{1-6} alkyl, and C_{1-6} alkyloxy; and

Het is pyridyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrazinyl, or pyridazinyl.

2. (currently amended)

A compound of formula (I')



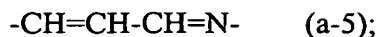
a prodrug, *N*-oxide, addition salt, quaternary amine, metal complex or stereochemically isomeric form thereof, wherein $-a^1=a^2-a^3=a^4-$ represents a radical of formula

$-CH=CH-CH=CH-$ (a-1);

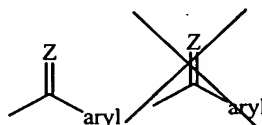
$-N=CH-CH=CH-$ (a-2);

$-CH=N-CH=CH-$ (a-3);

$-CH=CH-N=CH-$ (a-4); or

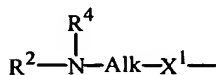


wherein each hydrogen atom in the radicals (a-1), (a-2), (a-3), (a-4) and (a-5) may optionally be replaced by halo, C₁₋₆alkyl, nitro, amino, hydroxy, C₁₋₆alkyloxy, polyhaloC₁₋₆alkyl, carboxyl, aminoC₁₋₆alkyl, mono- or di(C₁₋₄alkyl)aminoC₁₋₆alkyl, C₁₋₆alkyloxycarbonyl, hydroxyC₁₋₆alkyl, or a radical of formula

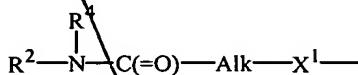


wherein =Z is =O, =CH-C(=O)-NR^{5a}R^{5b}, =CH₂, =CH-C₁₋₆alkyl, =N-OH or =N-O-C₁₋₆alkyl;

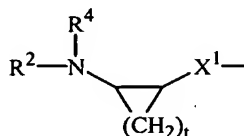
Q is a radical of formula



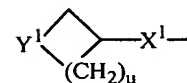
(b-1)



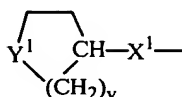
(b-2)



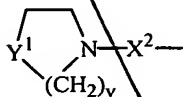
(b-3)



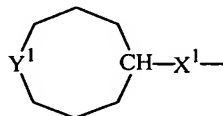
(b-4)



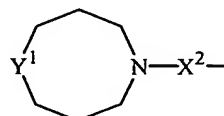
(b-5)



(b-6)



(b-7)



(b-8)

wherein Alk is C₁₋₆alkanediyl;

Y¹ is a bivalent radical of formula -NR²- or -CH(NR²R⁴)-;

X¹ is NR⁴, S, S(=O), S(=O)₂, O, CH₂, C(=O), C(=CH₂), CH(OH), CH(CH₃), CH(OCH₃), CH(SCH₃), CH(NR^{5a}R^{5b}), CH₂-NR⁴ or NR⁴-CH₂;

X² is a direct bond, CH₂, C(=O), NR⁴, C₁₋₄alkyl-NR⁴, NR⁴-C₁₋₄alkyl;

t is 2, 3, 4 or 5;

u is 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5;

v is 2 or 3; and

whereby each hydrogen atom in Alk and the carbocycles and the heterocycles defined in radicals (b-3), (b-4), (b-5), (b-6), (b-7) and (b-8) may optionally be replaced by R³;

with the proviso that when R^3 is hydroxy or C_{1-6} alkyloxy, then R^3 can not replace a hydrogen atom in the α position relative to a nitrogen atom;

G is a direct bond or C_{1-10} alkanediyl;

R^1 is a monocyclic heterocycle selected from pyridyl, pyrazinyl, pyridazinyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrrolyl, imidazolyl and pyrazolyl; and each heterocycle may optionally be substituted with 1 or where possible more, such as 2, 3 or 4, substituents selected from halo, hydroxy, amino, cyano, carboxy, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} alkyloxy, C_{1-6} alkylthio, C_{1-6} alkyloxy C_{1-6} alkyl, aryl, aryl C_{1-6} alkyl, aryl C_{1-6} alkyloxy, hydroxy C_{1-6} alkyl, mono- or di(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino, mono- or di(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino C_{1-6} alkyl, polyhalo C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} alkylcarbonylamino, C_{1-6} alkyl-SO₂-NR^{5c}-, aryl-SO₂-NR^{5c}-, C_{1-6} alkyloxycarbonyl, -C(=O)-NR^{5c}R^{5d}, HO(-CH₂-CH₂-O)_n-, halo(-CH₂-CH₂-O)_n-, C_{1-6} alkyloxy(-CH₂-CH₂-O)_n-, aryl C_{1-6} alkyloxy(-CH₂-CH₂-O)_n- and mono- or di(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino(-CH₂-CH₂-O)_n-;

each n independently is 1, 2, 3 or 4;

R^2 is hydrogen, formyl, pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, homopiperidinyl, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl substituted with N(R⁶)₂, or C_{1-10} alkyl substituted with N(R⁶)₂ and optionally with a second, third or fourth substituent selected from amino, hydroxy, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, C_{2-5} alkanediyl, piperidinyl, mono- or di(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino, C_{1-6} alkyloxycarbonylamino, aryl and aryloxy;

R^3 is hydrogen, hydroxy, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} alkyloxy, aryl C_{1-6} alkyl or aryl C_{1-6} alkyloxy;

R^4 is hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl or aryl C_{1-6} alkyl;

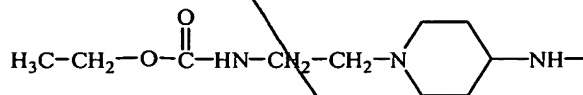
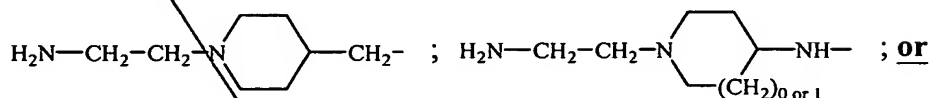
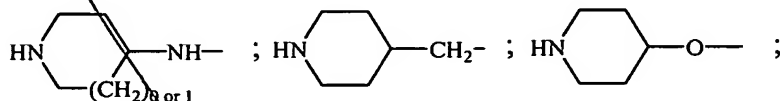
R^{5a} , R^{5b} , R^{5c} and R^{5d} each independently are hydrogen or C_{1-6} alkyl; or

R^{5a} and R^{5b} , or R^{5c} and R^{5d} taken together form a bivalent radical of formula -(CH₂)_s- wherein s is 4 or 5;

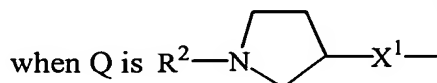
R^6 is hydrogen, C_{1-4} alkyl, formyl, hydroxy C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} alkylcarbonyl or C_{1-6} alkyloxycarbonyl;

aryl is phenyl or phenyl substituted with 1 or more, such as 2, 3 or 4, substituents selected from halo, hydroxy, C_{1-6} alkyl, hydroxy C_{1-6} alkyl, polyhalo C_{1-6} alkyl, and C_{1-6} alkyloxy;

provided that when G is methylene, and R¹ is 2-pyridyl, 3-pyridyl, 6-methyl-2-pyridyl, 2-pyrazinyl or 5-methyl-imidazol-4-yl, and -a¹=a²-a³=a⁴- is -CH=CH-CH=CH- or -N=CH-CH=CH-, then Q is other than

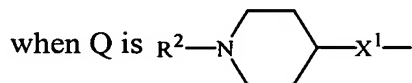


3. (previously amended) A compound as claimed in claim 2, wherein:



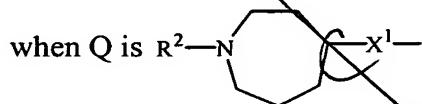
wherein X¹ is NR⁴, O, S, S(=O), S(=O)₂, CH₂, C(=O), C(=CH₂) or CH(CH₃), then R¹ is other than pyridyl, pyridyl substituted with C₁₋₆alkyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrazinyl, imidazolyl and imidazolyl substituted with C₁₋₆alkyl.

4. (previously amended) A compound as claimed in claim 2, wherein:



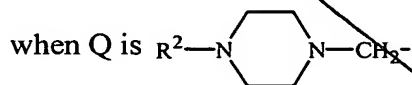
wherein X¹ is NR⁴, O, S, S(=O), S(=O)₂, CH₂, C(=O), C(=CH₂) or CH(CH₃), then R¹ is other than pyridyl, pyridyl substituted with C₁₋₆alkyl, pyridyl substituted with 1 or 2 C₁₋₆alkyloxy, pyrazinyl, pyrrolyl, pyrrolyl substituted with C₁₋₆alkyl, imidazolyl and imidazolyl substituted with C₁₋₆alkyl.

5. (previously amended) A compound as claimed in claim 2, wherein:



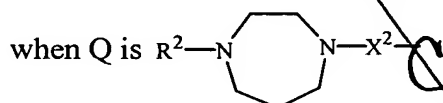
wherein X^1 is NR^4 , Q , S , $S(=O)$, $S(=O)_2$, CH_2 , $C(=O)$, $C(=CH_2)$ or $CH(CH_3)$, then R^1 is other than pyridyl, pyridyl substituted with C_{1-6} alkyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrazinyl, imidazolyl and imidazolyl substituted with C_{1-6} alkyl.

6. (previously amended) A compound as claimed in claim 2, wherein:



then R^1 is other than pyridyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrazinyl, imidazolyl and imidazolyl substituted with C_{1-6} alkyl.

7. (previously amended) A compound as claimed in claim 2, wherein:



wherein X^2 is CH_2 or a direct bond, then R^1 is other than pyridyl, pyridyl substituted with C_{1-6} alkyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrazinyl, imidazolyl and imidazolyl substituted with C_{1-6} alkyl.

8. (previously amended) A compound as claimed in claim 2, wherein the compound is:

(±)-2-[[2-[[1-(2-amino-3-methylbutyl)-4-piperidinyl]amino]-7-methyl-1H-benzimidazol-1-yl]methyl]-6-methyl-3-pyridinol tetrahydrochloride monohydrate;

2-[[2-[[1-(2-aminoethyl)-4-piperidinyl]amino]-1H-benzimidazol-1-yl]methyl]-3-pyridinol;

(±)-N-[1-(2-amino-3-methylbutyl)-4-piperidinyl]-6-chloro-1-[(1,4-dimethyl-1H-imidazol-5-yl)methyl]-1H-benzimidazol-2-amine monohydrate;

(±)-N-[1-(2-amino-3-methylbutyl)-4-piperidinyl]-6-chloro-1-[(6-methyl-2-pyridinyl)methyl]-1H-benzimidazol-2-amine;

(±)-2-[[2-[(3-amino-2-hydroxypropyl)amino]-1H-benzimidazol-1-yl]methyl]-6-methyl-3-pyridinol;

N-[1-(2-aminoethyl)-4-piperidinyl]-1-[[3-(2-ethoxyethoxy)-6-methyl-2-pyridinyl]methyl]-1H-benzimidazol-2-amine tetrahydrochloride dihydrate;

(±)-N-[1-(2-amino-3-methylbutyl)-4-piperidinyl]-1-[(2-chloro-1,4-dimethyl-1H-imidazol-5-yl)methyl]-1H-benzimidazol-2-amine;

~~(±)-N-[1-(2-amino-3-methylbutyl)-4-piperidinyl]-6-chloro-1-[(2-chloro-1,4-dimethyl-1H-imidazol-5-yl)methyl]-1H-benzimidazol-2-amine;~~

~~(±)-N-[1-(2-amino-3-methylbutyl)-4-piperidinyl]-6-methyl-1-[(6-methyl-2-pyridinyl)methyl]-1H-benzimidazol-2-amine;~~

~~(±)-N-[1-(2-aminopropyl)-4-piperidinyl]-1-[(3,5,6-trimethylpyrazinyl)methyl]-1H-benzimidazol-2-amine tetrahydrochloride trihydrate;~~

~~(±)-N-[1-(2-amino-3-methylbutyl)-4-piperidinyl]-1-[(3,5,6-trimethylpyrazinyl)methyl]-1H-benzimidazol-2-amine;~~

~~N-[1-(2-aminoethyl)-4-piperidinyl]-1-[[3-(2-chloroethoxy)-6-methyl-2-pyridinyl)methyl]-1H-benzimidazol-2-amine trihydrochloride dihydrate;~~

~~(±)-N-[1-(2-amino-3-methylbutyl)-4-piperidinyl]-1-[3-amino-2-pyridinyl)methyl]-1H-benzimidazol-2-amine tetrahydrochloride trihydrate;~~

~~2-[[2-[[1-(2-aminoethyl)-4-piperidinyl]amino]-4-methyl-1H-benzimidazol-1-yl)methyl]-6-methyl-3-pyridinol tetrahydrochloride;~~

~~(±)-2-[[2-[[1-(2-amino-3-methylbutyl)-4-piperidinyl]amino]-7-methyl-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridin-3-yl)methyl]-6-methyl-3-pyridinol;~~

~~2-[[2-[[1-(2-aminoethyl)-4-piperidinyl]amino]-6-chloro-4-methyl-1H-benzimidazol-1-yl)methyl]-6-methyl-3-pyridinol tetrahydrochloride 2-propanolate (1:1);~~

~~(±)-2-[[2-[[1-(2-amino-3-methylbutyl)-4-piperidinyl]amino]-4-methyl-1H-benzimidazol-1-yl)methyl]-6-methyl-3-pyridinol;~~

~~(±)-2-[[2-[[1-(2-aminopropyl)-4-piperidinyl]amino]-4-methyl-1H-benzimidazol-1-yl)methyl]-6-methyl-3-pyridinol tetrahydrochloride trihydrate;~~

~~2-[[2-[[1-(2-aminoethyl)-4-piperidinyl]amino]-7-methyl-1H-benzimidazol-1-yl)methyl]-6-methyl-3-pyridinol tetrahydrochloride dihydrate;~~

~~2-[[2-[[1-(2-aminoethyl)-4-piperidinyl]amino]-6-bromo-4-methyl-1H-benzimidazol-1-yl)methyl]-6-methyl-3-pyridinol tetrahydrochloride;~~

~~2-[[2-[[1-(2-aminoethyl)-4-piperidinyl]amino]-1H-benzimidazol-1-yl)methyl]-6-methyl-3-pyridinol tetrahydrochloride monohydrate;~~

~~(±)-2-[[2-[[1-(2-amino-3-methylbutyl)-4-piperidinyl]amino]-1H-benzimidazol-1-yl)methyl]-6-methyl-3-pyridinol;~~

(±)-N-[1-(2-amino-3-methylbutyl)-4-piperidinyl]-4-methyl-1-[(6-methyl-2-pyridinyl)methyl]-1H-benzimidazol-2-amine;

a prodrug, N-oxide, addition salt, quaternary amine, metal complex or stereochemically isomeric form thereof.

9. (*currently amended*) A compound ~~as claimed in claim 2~~, wherein the compound is: 2-[[2-[[1-(2-aminoethyl)-4-piperidinyl]amino]-5-chloro-7-methyl-1H-benzimidazol-1-yl]methyl]-6-methyl-3-pyridinol tetrahydrochloride tetrahydrate;

N-[1-(2-aminoethyl)-4-piperidinyl]-1-[(2,4-dimethyl-5-oxazolyl)methyl]-1H-benzimidazol-2-amine;

N-[1-(2-aminoethyl)-4-piperidinyl]-1-[(2,5-dimethyl-4-oxazolyl)methyl]-1H-benzimidazol-2-amine trihydrochloride monohydrate;

4-[[3-[[5-(methoxymethyl)-2-furanyl]methyl]-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridine-2-yl]methyl]-1-piperidineethanamine;

N-[1-(2-aminoethyl)-4-piperidinyl]-1-[(5-methyl-3-isoxazolyl)methyl]-1H-benzimidazol-2-amine trihydrochloride monohydrate;

N-[1-(2-aminoethyl)-4-piperidinyl]-1-[(2-methyl-5-oxazolyl)methyl]-1H-benzimidazol-2-amine monohydrate;

N-[1-(2-aminoethyl)-4-piperidinyl]-1-[(2-methyl-5-oxazolyl)methyl]-1H-benzimidazol-2-amine trihydrochloride monohydrate;

N-[1-(2-aminoethyl)-4-piperidinyl]-3-[(2,4-dimethyl-5-oxazolyl)methyl]-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridin-2-amine;

4-[[3-[(2-methyl-5-oxazolyl)methyl]-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridin-2-yl]methyl]-1-piperazineethanamine;

N-[1-(2-aminoethyl)-4-piperidinyl]-1-(4-thiazolyl)methyl)-1H-benzimidazol-2-amine;

N-[1-(2-aminoethyl)-4-piperidinyl]-1-[(5-phenyl-1,2,4-oxadiazol-3-yl)methyl]-1H-benzimidazol-2-amine trihydrochloride;

5-[[2-[[1-(2-aminoethyl)-4-piperidinyl]amino]-1H-benzimidazol-1-yl]methyl]-2-oxazolemethanol tetrahydrochloride dihydrate;

N-[1-(2-aminoethyl)-4-piperidinyl]-1-[(3-methyl-5-isoxazolyl)methyl]-1H-benzimidazol-2-amine trihydrochloride monohydrate;

4-[[1-[[2-(dimethylamino)-4-thiazolyl]methyl]-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl]methyl]-1-piperidineethanamine tetrahydrochloride monohydrate 2-propanolate (1:1);

ethyl 5-[[2-[[1-2-[[[(1,1-dimethylethoxy)carbonyl]amino]ethyl]-4-piperidiny]amino]-1H-benzimidazol-1-yl]methyl]-2-methyl-4-oxazolecarboxylate;

4-[[1-[(2-methyl-4-thiazolyl)methyl]-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl]methyl]-1-piperidineethanamine;

N-[1-(2-aminoethyl)-4-piperidiny]-1-[(2-methyl-3-furanyl)methyl]-1H-benzimidazol-2-amine;

ethyl 4-[[3-[(3-hydroxy-6-methyl-2-pyridinyl)methyl]-7-methyl-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridine-2-yl]amino]-1-piperidinecarboxylate;

1,1-dimethylethyl 4-[[1-[[3-[2-(dimethylamino)ethoxy]-6-methyl-2-pyridinyl]methyl]-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl]amino]-1-piperidinecarboxylate;

ethyl 4-[[1-[(3-amino-2-pyridinyl)methyl]-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl]amino]-1-piperidinecarboxylate;

N-[1-(6-methyl-2-pyridinyl)-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl]-1-(3-pyridinylcarbonyl)-4-piperidinamine;

a prodrug, N-oxide, addition salt, quaternary amine, metal complex or stereochemically isomeric form thereof.

10. *(previously amended)* A method of using as a medicine a compound as claimed in any one of claims 2 to 9.

11. *(previously amended)* A method of manufacturing a medicament for the treatment of viral infections, comprising the step of providing the compound as claimed in claim 9.

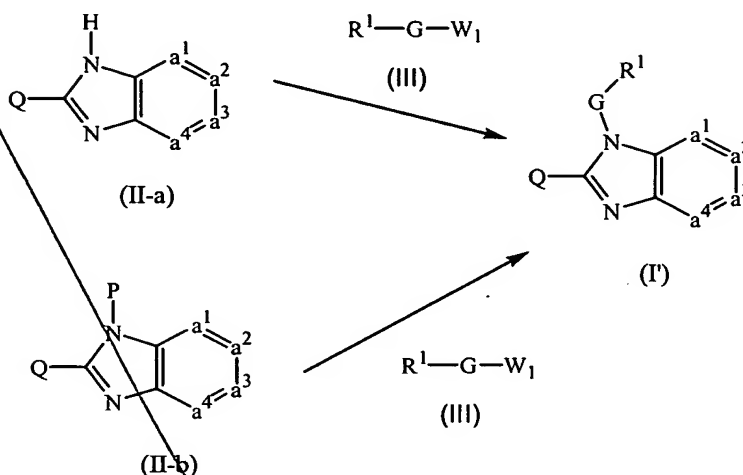
12. *(previously amended)* The method of claim 1 or 11, wherein said viral infection is a respiratory syncytial virus infection.

13. *(previously amended)* A pharmaceutical composition, comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and as active ingredient a therapeutically effective amount of a compound as claimed in any one of claims 2 to 9.

14. (previously amended) A process of preparing a composition as claimed in claim 13, comprising the step of intimately mixing said carrier with said compound.

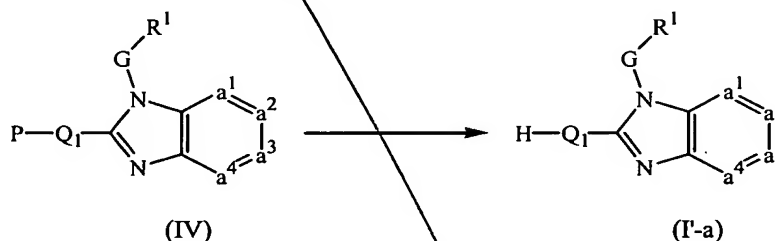
15. (previously amended) A process of preparing a compound as claimed in claim 2, comprising at least one step selected from the group consisting of:

- a) reacting an intermediate of formula (II-a) or (II-b) with an intermediate of formula (III)



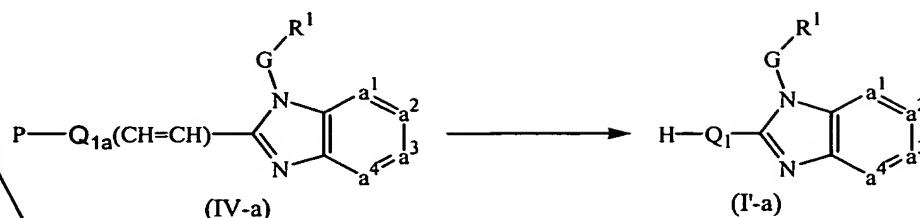
with R^1 , G, Q and $-a^1=a^2-a^3=a^4-$ defined as in claim 2, and W_1 being a suitable leaving group, in the presence of a suitable base and in a suitable reaction-inert solvent;

- b) deprotecting an intermediate of formula (IV)



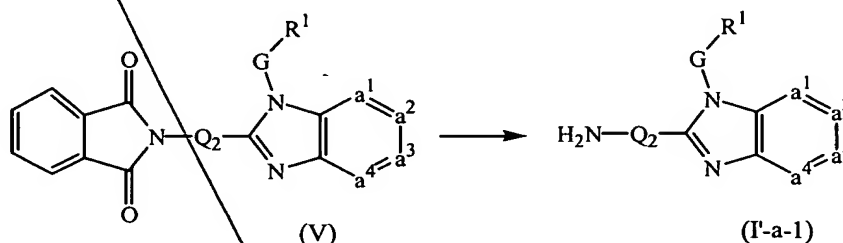
with R^1 , G, and $-a^1=a^2-a^3=a^4-$ defined as in claim 2, H-Q1 being defined as Q according to claim 2 provided that R^2 or at least one R^6 substituent is hydrogen, and P being a protective group;

- c) deprotecting and reducing an intermediate of formula (IV-a)



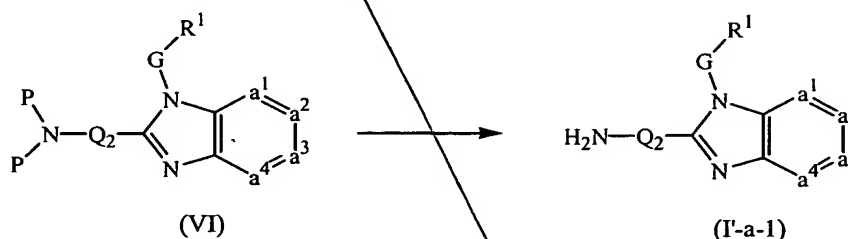
with R^1 , G, and $-a^1=a^2-a^3=a^4-$ defined as in claim 2, H-Q₁ being defined as Q according to claim 2 provided that R² or at least one R⁶ substituent is hydrogen, Q_{1a}(CH=CH) being defined as Q₁ provided that Q₁ comprises an unsaturated bond, and P being a protective group;

d) deprotecting an intermediate of formula (V)



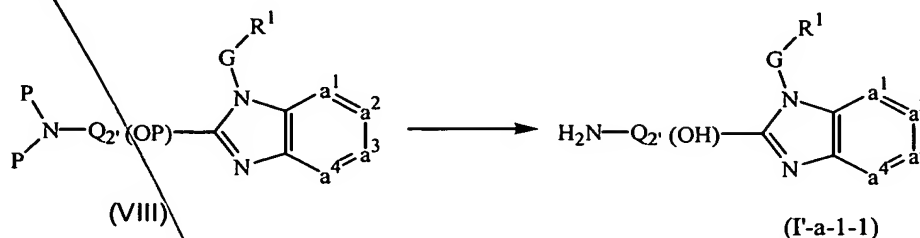
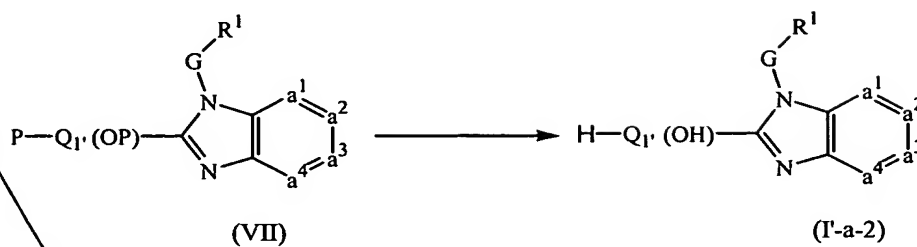
with R^1 , G, and $-a^1=a^2-a^3=a^4-$ defined as in claim 2, and H₂N-Q₂ being defined as Q according to claim 2 provided that both R⁶ substituents are hydrogen or R² and R⁴ are both hydrogen;

e) deprotecting an intermediate of formula (VI)



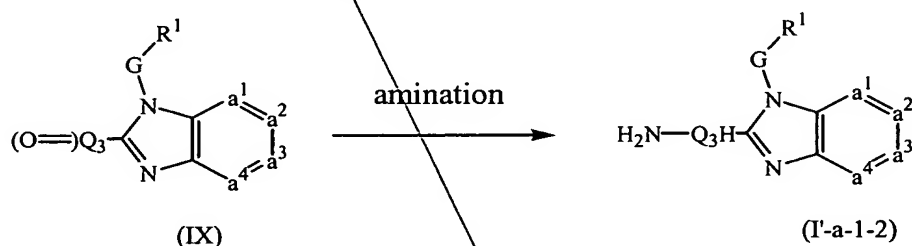
with R^1 , G, and $-a^1=a^2-a^3=a^4-$ defined as in claim 2, and H₂N-Q₂ being defined as Q according to claim 2 provided that both R⁶ substituents are hydrogen or R² and R⁴ are both hydrogen, and P being a protective group;

f) deprotecting an intermediate of formula (VII) or (VIII)



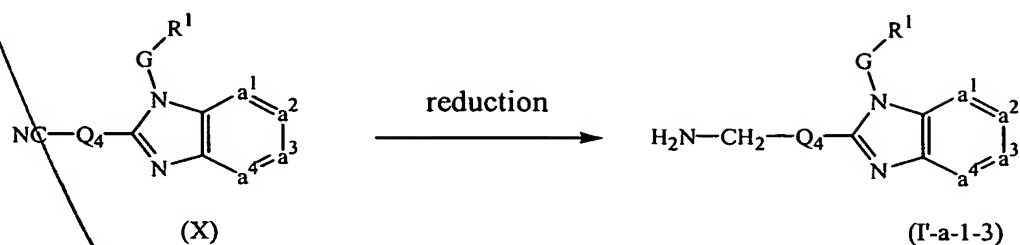
with R^1 , G, and $-a^1=a^2-a^3=a^4-$ defined as in claim 2, $H-Q_1'(OH)$ being defined as Q according to claim 2 provided that R^2 or at least one R^6 substituent is hydrogen and provided that Q comprises a hydroxy moiety, $H_2N-Q_2'(OH)$ being defined as Q according to claim 2 provided that both R^6 substituents are hydrogen or R^2 and R^4 are both hydrogen and provided that Q comprises a hydroxy moiety, and P being a protective group;

g) amination of an intermediate of formula (IX)



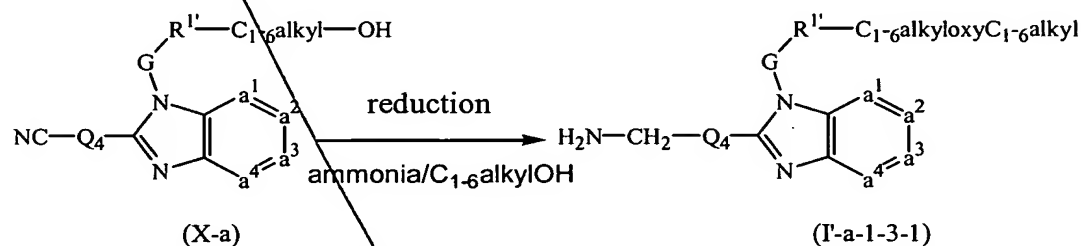
with R^1 , G, and $-a^1=a^2-a^3=a^4-$ defined as in claim 2, and H_2N-Q_3H being defined as Q according to claim 2 provided that both R^6 substituents are hydrogen or R^2 and R^4 are both hydrogen, and the carbon adjacent to the nitrogen carrying the R^6 , or R^2 and R^4 substituents contains at least one hydrogen, in the presence of a suitable amination reagent;

h) reducing an intermediate of formula (X)



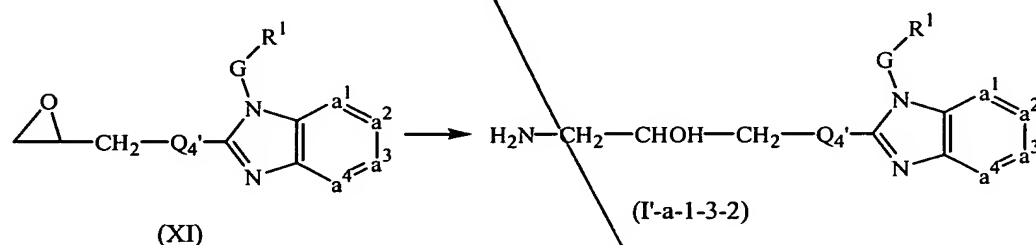
with R¹, G, and -a¹=a²-a³=a⁴- defined as in claim 2, and H₂N-CH₂-Q₄ being defined as Q according to claim 2 provided that Q comprises a -CH₂-NH₂ moiety, in the presence of a suitable reducing agent;

- i) reducing an intermediate of formula (X-a)



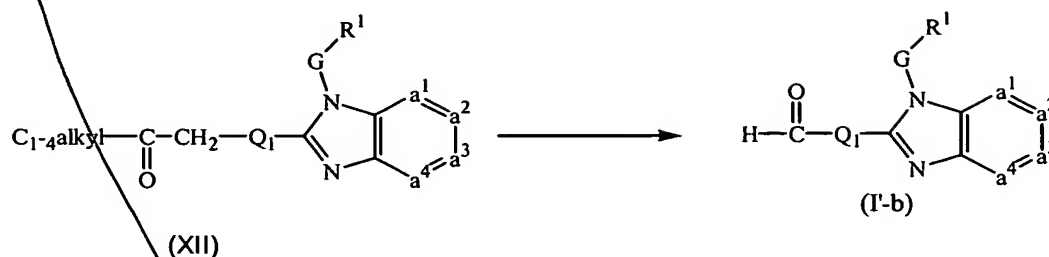
with G, and -a¹=a²-a³=a⁴- defined as in claim 2, H₂N-CH₂-Q₄ being defined as Q according to claim 2 provided that Q comprises a -CH₂-NH₂ moiety, and R^{1'} being defined as R¹ according to claim 2 provided that it comprises at least one substituent, in the presence of a suitable reducing agent and suitable solvent;

- j) amination of an intermediate of formula (XI)



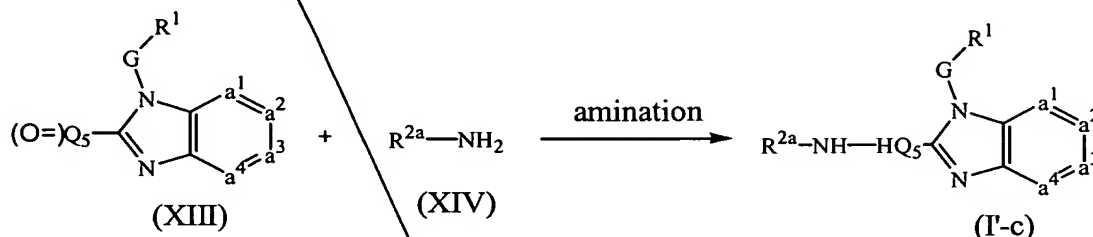
with R¹, G, and -a¹=a²-a³=a⁴- defined as in claim 2, and H₂N-CH₂-CHOH-CH₂-Q₄ being defined as Q according to claim 2 provided that Q comprises a CH₂-CHOH-CH₂-NH₂ moiety, in the presence of a suitable amination reagent;

- k) reacting an intermediate of formula (XII) with formic acid, formamide and ammonia



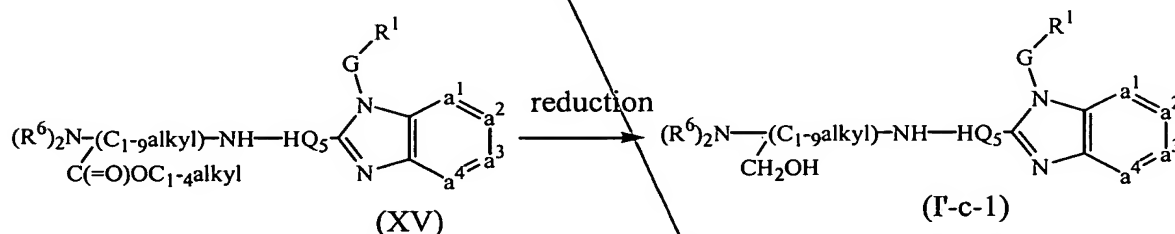
with R^1 , G, and $-\text{a}^1=\text{a}^2-\text{a}^3=\text{a}^4-$ defined as in claim 2, and $\text{H}-\text{C}(=\text{O})-\text{Q}_1$ being defined as Q according to claim 2 provided that R^2 or at least one R^6 substituent is formyl;

l) amination of an intermediate of formula (XIII) by reaction with an intermediate of formula (XIV)



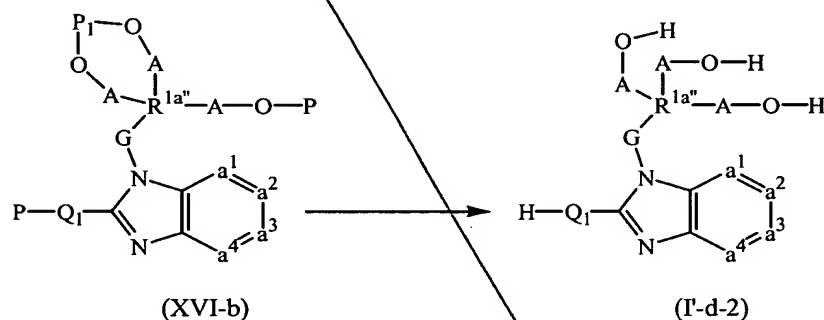
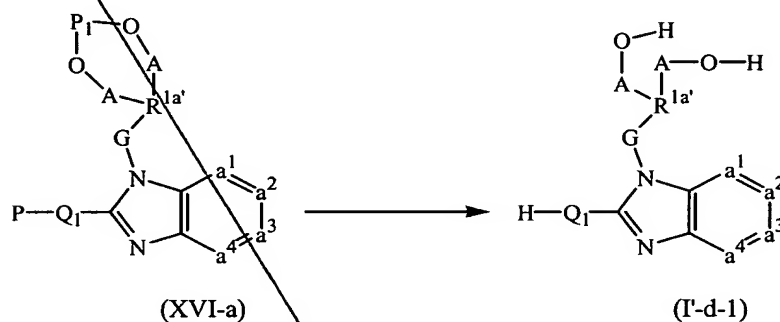
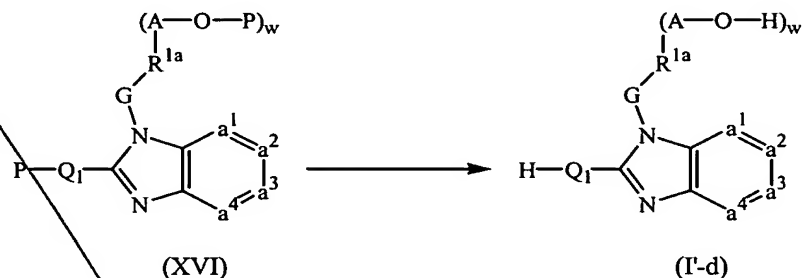
with R^1 , G, and $-\text{a}^1=\text{a}^2-\text{a}^3=\text{a}^4-$ defined as in claim 2, and $\text{R}^{2a}-\text{NH}-\text{HQ}_5$ being defined as Q according to claim 2 provided that R^2 is other than hydrogen and is represented by R^{2a} , R^4 is hydrogen, and the carbon atom adjacent to the nitrogen atom carrying the R^2 and R^4 substituents, carries also at least one hydrogen atom, in the presence of a suitable reducing agent;

m) reducing an intermediate of formula (XV)



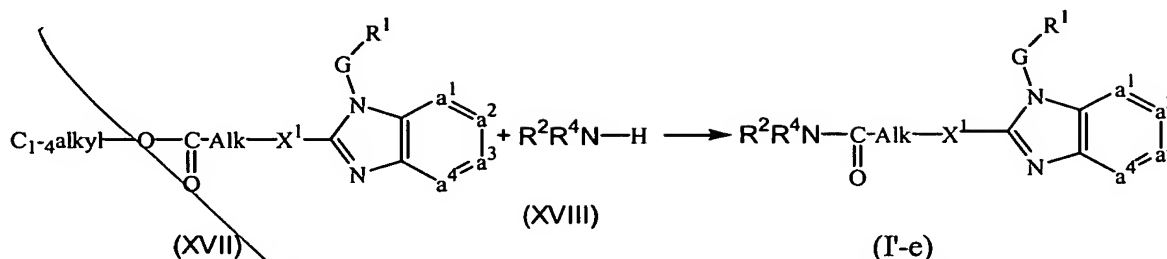
with R^1 , G, and $-\text{a}^1=\text{a}^2-\text{a}^3=\text{a}^4-$ defined as in claim 2, and $(\text{R}^6)_2\text{N}-(\text{C}_{1-9}\text{alkyl})\text{CH}_2\text{OH}-\text{NH}-\text{HQ}_5$ being defined as Q according to claim 2 provided that R^2 is other than hydrogen and is represented by $\text{C}_{1-10}\text{alkyl}$ substituted with $\text{N}(\text{R}^6)_2$ and with hydroxy, and the carbon atom carrying the hydroxy, carries also two hydrogen atoms, and provided that R^4 is hydrogen, and the carbon atom adjacent to the nitrogen atom

- carrying the R^2 and R^4 substituents, carries also at least one hydrogen atom, with a suitable reducing agent;
- n) deprotecting an intermediate of formula (XVI), (XVI-a) or (XVI-b)



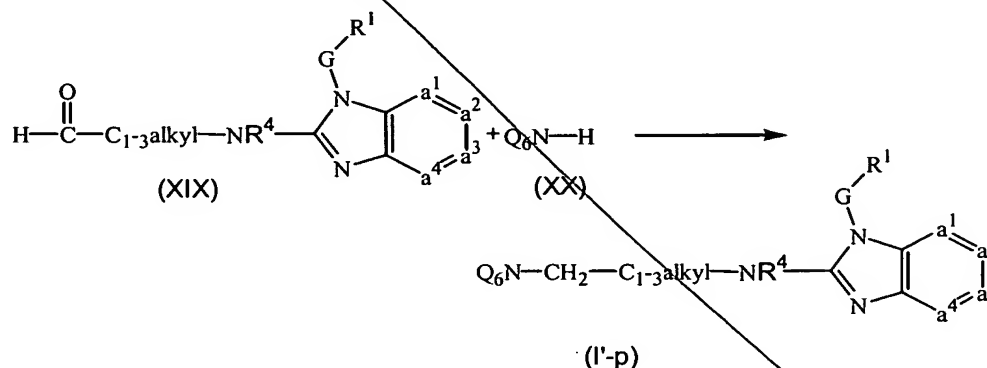
with G, and $-a^1=a^2-a^3=a^4-$ defined as in claim 2, and $H-Q_1$ being defined as Q according to claim 2 provided that R^2 or at least one R^6 substituent is hydrogen, and $R^{1a}-(A-O-H)_w$, $R^{1a'}-(A-O-H)_2$ and $R^{1a''}-(A-O-H)_3$ being defined as R^1 according to claim 2 provided that R^1 is substituted with hydroxy, hydroxy C_{1-6} alkyl, or $HO(-CH_2-CH_2-O)_n-$, with w being an integer from 1 to 4 and P or P_1 being a suitable protecting group, with a suitable acid;

- o) amination of an intermediate of formula (XVII)



with R^1 , G, $-\text{a}^1=\text{a}^2-\text{a}^3=\text{a}^4-$, Alk, X^1 , R^2 and R^4 defined as in claim 2, in the presence of a suitable amination agent; and

p) amination of an intermediate of formula (XIX)



with R^1 , G, and $-\text{a}^1=\text{a}^2-\text{a}^3=\text{a}^4-$ defined as in claim 2, and $\text{Q}_6\text{N}-\text{CH}_2-\text{C}_{1-3}\text{alkyl}-\text{NR}^4$ being defined as Q according to claim 2 provided that in the definition of Q, X^2 is $\text{C}_{2-4}\text{alkyl}-\text{NR}^4$, in the presence of a suitable amination agent.

16. (previously amended) A product, comprising:

- (a) a first compound as claimed in any one of claims 2 to 9; and
- (b) a second antiviral compound,

wherein said first compound and said second compound are simultaneously, separately or sequentially used in the treatment or the prevention of viral infections.

17. (previously amended) A pharmaceutical composition, comprising:

- (a) a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier; and
- (b) as active ingredients:
 - i. a first compound as claimed in any one of claims 2 to 9; and
 - ii. a second antiviral compound.

18. *(previously added)* The process of claim 15, further comprising the step of converting compound of formula (I'), stereochemically isomeric forms, metal complexes, quaternary amines or *N*-oxide forms thereof, into a therapeutically active non-toxic acid addition salt by treatment with an acid.

19. *(previously added)* The process of claim 15, further comprising the step of converting compound of formula (I'), stereochemically isomeric forms, metal complexes, quaternary amines or *N*-oxide forms thereof, into a therapeutically active non-toxic base addition salt by treatment with alkali.

20. *(previously added)* The process of claim 15, further comprising the step of converting the acid addition salt form of compound of formula (I'), stereochemically isomeric forms, metal complexes, quaternary amines or *N*-oxide forms thereof, into the free base by treatment with alkali.

21. *(previously added)* The process of claim 15, further comprising the step of converting the base addition salt form of compound of formula (I'), stereochemically isomeric forms, metal complexes, quaternary amines or *N*-oxide forms thereof, into the free acid by treatment with acid.

22. *(new)* The process of claim 15, further comprising the step of converting said compound of formula (I'), stereochemically isomeric form, metal complex, quaternary amine or *N*-oxide form thereof, into a different form of compound of formula (I'), stereochemically isomeric form, metal complex, quaternary amine or *N*-oxide form thereof